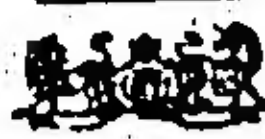


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PRINCE'S HILL, HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1891.

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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,

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[5]

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 1891.

It will doubtless interest our local law-makers and gaol reformers to know that a new enactment has lately passed into operation in England from which especially gratifying results are expected. It is called the *First Offenders' Act*, and its object is to endeavour to put a stop to the wholesale manufacture of criminals by legal process which for years past has been filling our gaols and disgracing our civilisation. The gathering strength of public opinion on this important subject becoming every day more apparent to thoughtful and humane occupants of the judicial bench, and receiving the hearty encouragement of the Press, the need for some reform to check the ever increasing ranks of the criminal classes at length became so generally recognised as a matter of national policy as well as a duty to civilisation that it was taken seriously in hand by the legislature, and the outcome is this new law. We can perhaps most forcibly illustrate the principle of the *First Offenders' Act* by briefly quoting the outlines of a case recently tried at the Guildhall, reported in the London papers. A young man, 18 years of age, the son of a clergyman, well educated and of considerable natural abilities, as evidenced by his being the holder of a £50 scholarship, was employed in the warehouse of the well-known glove manufacturers, Messrs. Dyer, Allcroft & Co. It appears that he got into bad company by frequenting billiard rooms, and associating with betting touts, and he was eventually expelled from the premises by the property of his employers and disposing of them at a quarter of their value to an unscrupulous retail dealer in the Strand.

Discovery of the crime was, of course, inevitable, and the wretched lad eventually found himself in the criminal dock, and to all appearance ruined for life. And but for worthy Alderman RINALS, who is something like an ornament to the bench, and the *First Offenders' Act*, that would without any manner of doubt have been the result, in addition to a respectable family being covered with unmerited disgrace. There was no defence, and the extenuation would have been laughed at by the stony-hearted and iron-headed judges and magistrates of the hard labour persuasion; but Alderman RINALS is a man with a big heart and more than ordinary intelligence, as well as a capable magistrate, and he interpreted the new law in its broadest sense. "If I sent you to prison," he said to the youth, "you would begin your downward career." But he did not send the misguided offender to become a gaol-bird; and the associate of convicts, and an outcast on the face of God's earth, but gave him another chance in the world by blinding his father over in the sum of £20 to bring him up for judgment when called for. And the decision was received in a crowded court with loud applause. In this case we venture to believe a hopeful life that may yet be made useful to mankind has been rescued from the criminal classes, without the interests of public justice suffering in the slightest degree, and there are doubtless thousands now wearing the brand of the convict who, had they been treated in similar fashion, would to-day be respectable and serviceable members of society.

There is a useful lesson for Hongkong in this touching little episode. We doubt if there are many places under English law where hardened criminals are so industriously manufactured as in this colony. The Police Court is the greatest offender, but truth compels us to state that the police and the magistrates are most effectively supported by their Honours of the Supreme Court. Day after day the filthy dock is crowded with petty offenders, chiefly old men with one leg in the grave and small boys not many years out of swaddling clothes, who have been arrested and dragged through the streets by stalwart Sikhs for the grievous crime of selling vegetables, fruit, or sweetmeats without a license, or for begging a few cash to save them from starvation. And they are rolled into gaol in regiments, to prison labour and association with the worst types of professional thieves and desperadoes. It is the same with the wretched votaries of *fan-tan* and other games of chance, opium smugglers, "drunks" and "disorderlies," the Ishmaelish host of rogues and vagabonds, sailors who have deserted their ships and soldiers who have forgotten what they owe to discipline, and the rules of the 'Service' by resenting the aggravating tyranny of a jumped-up corporal or the domineering insolence of a colour-sergeant with a straight left-hander on the *off-front*—they are all relegated to the same society, the same shot-drill and oakum-picking with the worst stamp of hardened criminals. The petty pilferer—a numerous class in Hongkong—a first offender whose crime may possibly be not of a very serious description, is nevertheless certain of a sentence of from six to eighteen months at the Magistrate's, and a considerably longer term if he happens to be committed to the Sessions. Once a criminal, always a criminal; one step from the straight path in this most Christian colony is almost invariably fatal—there is no mercy shown; no consideration given and no provision made for a possible reformation. Chinese backsliders who enter the gloomy portals of Victoria Gaol may truly exclaim "abandon hope all ye who enter here."

And so the steady and ever increasing manufacture of criminals goes merrily along; the gaol is overcrowded, special commissions are appointed to investigate and suggest remedies; legislative Councilors get to haggles loggerheads—the officials insist on huge votes for a new gaol or gaol extensions which have not yet been planned, and the unofficials decline to take any rash leap in the dark involving such large outlays of public money—and pay each other questionable compliments; the Press ridicules both commissioners and legislators; the citizens groan under and curse the heavy taxation; and the Canton river steamers continue to earn large profits by vomiting thousands upon thousands of vagrants to vegetate under the boasted freedom of the British flag, and the magistrates and judges cheerfully "gather them in" until the ranks of the habitual criminals and old offenders swell out like the rolling ocean. Needless to say it is not for the scum of the Liang Kwang that we advocate a trial of the *First Offenders' Act* and lenient sentences for petty offences; the man who can devise some practical and workable method for dealing with these unwelcome hordes will deserve handsomely of the colony—although, it is perhaps as well to add, he is not likely to

obtain any tangible recognition however valuable his services, unless he is a pampered official. There are at the present time two or three hundred prisoners in Victoria Gaol who are serving long terms for comparatively minor crimes, and whose release would relieve the dangerous overcrowding of which we have heard so much lately and in no way injure either the requirements of justice or the interests of the community. But any such sweeping exercise of the supreme authority would be useless unless seconded by the adoption of a new policy towards petty delinquents who are not criminals, and of a system of short sentences for first offenders and those convicted of crimes, such as petty larceny, which are in no sense of a serious character. We shall return to this subject after receiving the result of certain inquiries which are now on foot.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

H.M.S. *Leander* arrived in port yesterday afternoon from a cruise.

The birthday of the German Emperor was celebrated here yesterday by the Teutonic community in the usual way.

MAJOR-GENERAL BEVAN EDWARDS has been created a K.C.M.G., not a C.M.G. as certain Indian "sheets" reported some days ago.

THE No. 2 Police launch, which was sunk in collision on Saturday last near the *Moonie*, was raised yesterday and beached at Kowloon.

THE Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. courteously informs us that the steamship *Bengal*, with the next English mail, left Singapore for this port at 8 a.m. to-day.

THERE will be a game of football under Rugby rules at the Race-course to-morrow afternoon, commencing at 4.45 p.m. The match is to be "The Club vs. The United Services."

THE officers of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank are, according to the *M. C. Daily News*, to have a bonus of ten per cent. on their salaries out of the magnificent profits earned during the past half year.

THE Straits Advertiser says that Messrs. W. Mansfield & Co. have purchased from the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company three steamers to add to their fleet on the Java line, and four steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Co. for their Native States line.

WE observe that the P. & O. and M. M. Companies advertise excursion tickets from Shanghai to Hongkong by their steamers leaving Shanghai on the 31st January and 7th, 14th, and 21st February, the tickets being available for return by either line and allowing for one month's stay in this port.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the *Singapore and Straits Directory* for 1891 which is larger than any previous edition of this useful work, and got up in a manner which reflects great credit on the publishers. The pictorial and other advertisements are a special feature of the work and compare favourably with anything of the kind executed in England or the States.

As the conclusion of the murder case yesterday at the Supreme Court, when Lam A. Sik was acquitted, he was immediately re-arrested and charged with others not in custody with having forced one Lal Yung to sign a promissory note for \$35 under threats of injury. The accused was brought before Mr. Wise this morning and the case was remanded to Friday, bail allowed in one surety of \$200.

WE understand that a telegram has been received from the Head Office of the Trust and Loan Co. of China, Japan and the Straits, Ltd., to the effect that, subject to confirmation at the general meeting to be held in London on 14th Feb., a dividend will be declared for the year at the rate of 16 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares and £8 on the Founders' Shares; and £55,000 placed to Reserve which will then stand at £100,000.

THE death of Octave Feuillet, of which telegraphic information came to hand recently, removes one of the foremost of contemporary French dramatists and novelists. He started out as the writer of plays and stories of such undoubted morality that they have been used as text-books in the grammar schools of America. Of such "The Romance of a Poor Young Man" is the best known. But in later years Feuillet fell into the common vice of realism and produced works that are not adapted for reading in female seminaries.

H.M.S. *Pigmy*, whose stranding near Mithra has already been reported in these columns, was towed off by the *Nikhilgawa Maru*, a steamer belonging to the Osaka Shipping Company, which was passing at the time. Two of the crew of the *Nikhilgawa Maru*, of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, says the *Shuonoma Shimbun*, were badly wounded while the vessel was endeavouring to get the *Pigmy* off and were removed to the Hiroshima Hospital. The southern part of the Mithra sea is covered with rocks, shoals, and vessels therefore take the northern course, but the *Pigmy* took the southern and consequently got aground.

AMBITIOUS young army officers who were eager for an Indian war to break the deadly monotony of garrison life and give a chance for speedy promotion will be only men, says an American paper, to mourn over the collapse of the big Indian war in Dakota. Had the hostilities held out it would have cost far more than they were worth to subdue them. The only good result of the trouble is that it has demonstrated the incapacity of the present Indian department and the urgent need of turning over the care of the agencies to the military authorities. Then Lo would get honest rations and wholesome discipline—both of which he sadly needs.

RESPECTING the *soshi* who are suspected of setting fire to the Japanese Houses of Parliament recently the *Japan Gazette* says:—"The *soshi* appear to be having a field-day, in the Capital (Tokio) just now. The native papers are full of their doings, of attacks and attempted attacks on members of the Diet. So appalling a series of incendiarism, are the authorities that serious trouble will ensue that on Friday last, long before the time for the opening of the Diet, the roads were lined with police and gendarmes and the road between Atarashi-bashi and Toranobashi, that runs along inside the moat, was closed to traffic. In spite of these precautions a member was attacked in his jurisdiction leaving the House. A number of *soshi*, rocks with which they have been armed, and it is to be hoped that an example will be made of them—to encourage the others. Some of the members, it is said, go armed, even within the precincts of the House itself, and one can hardly blame them if, as it seems, they are liable to be attacked at any moment. The *soshi* are evidently bent upon constituting themselves a kind of Fifth Estate in the Government of the country, but up to now they have not been over-burdened with success."

H.M.S. *Daphne*, sister-ship of the sloop-of-war *Nymph*, left Vancouver on 22nd ultimo for the China Station via Fisco and Honolulu. She was due in San Francisco on the 21st ultimo.

The *Northern Territory Times* of the 16th instant states that Captain Williams of the *Chenoka* made the voyage from Hongkong to Port Darwin in seven days twenty-one hours, which beats all previous records.

CLEVER little Lena Sallinger, who was the one bright particular star of Sallinger's Opera Company, who performed for a season in Hongkong three years ago, was lately playing with great success at the Sydney Opera House in "Paul Jones."

AMELIA GLOVER, who is an American dancer of some repute, we believe, says that "to attain success in skirt-dancing, the dancer must not have the slightest suspicion of *embarrassment*. She must, above all things, possess not only the quality of being able to kick artificially, but must also use a smile, a bit of gentleness, an undefinable something such as French danseuses use in their art."

THE Secretary of the Punjoni Gold Mining Co. is in receipt of a telegram from Mr. H. M. Becher, stating that he has resumed operations at the Talla Mines at the 100 foot level, low grade ore in abundance in sight, the ore runs in irregular veins which makes the quality difficult to judge, the maximum is returned to be about 100 to the ton. A change in the character of the rock is likely to be met with in a few days.

It is reported on good authority, says the *Japan Gazette*, that Count Ito purposes visiting China after the session of the Diet is over. Special negotiations are said to be the primary object of the Count's visit. The position of the Japanese in Korea seems to be growing more and more comfortable, and the *Mainichi* has a statement to the effect that the strained relations which exist may lead to blood shed at any time.

ABOUT 30 this morning two coolies, who lived at 21, Fletcher Street, Wanchai, had a quarrel and a set-to with a knife. The one that drew first blood got the best of the match and laid his victim out with several severe cuts and stabs about the body, and then decamped. The injured man was taken to the hospital and is in a very critical condition. His ultimate recovery being doubtful. The police have not yet arrested his assailant.

THE S.S. *Namchow*, which left Amoy safely for Swatow and the Straits on the 11th instant, landed the following day \$50,000 which had been shipped in Amoy for Swatow. As a precaution against piracy and to prevent a repetition of the *Namchow* affair, on leaving Amoy the passengers were searched, loaded arms and ammunition distributed amongst the Officers and Engineers and an outside course was shaped.

REFERRING to the decision of the court-martial attributing the loss of H.M.S. *Serpent* to bad navigation, a London contemporary says the disaster only confirms the warning so often given by Sir Geoffrey Hornby, who is a sailor as well as a naval officer, that in war we shall one day come to fight on foot, because we are allowing naval officers to neglect their seamanship. Our system of training naval officers almost solely under steam, according to this authority, will yet cost the taxpayers many a million for wreckage. The subject requires to be carefully looked into.

THE designs of the second-class cruisers which are to be built under the programme of 1889-90 are to undergo considerable alteration. There will be altogether twenty-nine vessels of the class. Seventeen have been contracted for with private firms, and the remaining twelve have been placed upon the slips in the public yards. Six yet remain to be constructed, and these will be made longer and have greater beam than the former ones. The armament and speed will remain the same. It is supposed by a London contemporary that the alteration has been induced by the *Serpent* disaster.

A PRISONER with a moving tale to relate appeared last week in a Victorian police-court. He said that he and the policeman who ran him in were in love with the same girl, but the maiden turned up her nose at the officer and refused to smile upon his suit. The boy, in a fit of vengeance, the debauched "cop" hit his rival over the head with his official club and arrested him on a charge of assault, his object being to bugle the lady at the back door while the other fellow was in gaol. It was a mean, low, beastly scheme, but sin generally prospers in this world, and so the defendant was locked up. And now in the visions of his dreams upon his plank bed he sees a leering constable surreptitiously embracing his girl in the kitchen, or grinning at her over the back fence, and he lies in a cold perspiration and asks where that constable's vengeance are stored, and if Nemesis is altogether played out.

THE P. and O. Company's agents have written to the Bombay papers stating that certain statements having appeared in the home papers, reflecting on the conduct of the Indian lascars crew of the steamship *Nepaul* on the occasion of her wreck, the Managers of the P. and O. Company have telegraphed from London to the agents in Hongkong that the statements are utterly false, and that on the morning after the departure of the mail, *The Times* published a letter from the Commander emphatically contradicting the allegations made, and stating that the Native crew behaved well, and the men in an orderly and obedient manner carried out his orders to his entire satisfaction. The passengers have also made the following statement to the Press:—"The Captain gave his orders calmly; there was nothing like panic either amongst the passengers or the crew. No one lost his head, and it is quite inaccurate to say that any of the lascars made a rush for the boat."

The Captain's orders were promptly obeyed. The passengers were exceedingly anxious. The utmost credit should be given to both the Captain and crew.

An Order in Council is published in the *Gazette* which will have effect in the Far East in altering the style of marriages. In the Queen declares that for the purposes of section 2 of the Marriage Act, 1860, any office, room, or place within the precincts of an Ambassador's or Minister's house, and any church or chapel annexed to such house, shall be deemed to be part of such house, and the Consular Marriage Acts shall apply to marriages solemnized therein, as if the Ambassador or Minister were a Consul duly authorized under the Acts. The same order applies to the dwelling of a Consul if within ten miles of his official residence. In case Her Majesty is pleased under the provisions of section 3 of the said Act, to authorize any Governor, High Commissioner, Resident, or other officer (not being a Consul within the meaning of the Consular Marriage Acts) to solemnize and register marriages, the officer for which he is so authorized shall be deemed to be his district, and the officer or place specified in the writing by which he is authorized shall be deemed to be his Consulate or office of his Consulate, and any document required by those Acts to be authenticated by the Consular seal shall be sufficiently authenticated if sealed with his official seal, or if signed by him with the addition of his official name or description. The order is to be referred to as "The Foreign Marriage Order in Council, 1890."

A NORTHERN contemporary states that as a result of recent suspicious occurrences on river steamers eight of the principal insurance companies at Shanghai have doubled their rates of insurance on cargo shipped for Chinkiang, Wuhu, Kiukiang and Hankow.

THE rule which it was proposed to pass at the extraordinary meeting of the Jockey Club yesterday was carried with the following amendment:—"If the stewards, or any ten members of the Club, (with the concurrence of the Stewards), who shall certify the same in writing, shall be of opinion, &c."

As will be seen from an advertisement in another column, Madame Patey, one of the best known singers of the day, will make her first bow to a Hongkong audience to-morrow evening, and as this lady is well supported there is but little doubt that a musical treat is in store for those who care to patronize talent and who intend putting in an appearance.

THE San Francisco Chronicle of the 20th ultimo has the following interesting paragraph ancient the cure of leprosy:—"The Health Officer in receipt of a letter yesterday from H. R. Adams of 1212 Hough avenue, Cleveland, O., in which he states that he has an infallible cure for leprosy, and offers to come to this city if the Health Department will guarantee him his expenses. Health Officer Keeney answered that the city had no money to spend on such matters, but that if he chose he could come to San Francisco and try his cure with the understanding that if it were efficacious the department would pay handsomely for it. No reply is expected by the Health Officer."

A FIREFIGHTER who occurred on board the steamer *Taiyuan* last evening the victim being a Chinaman. The man, whose name was not given, worked for 37 years in Australia, and was sent to scrape together fifty shillings, and with these was returning to his native land. During the voyage the coils had been tied round his waist in a big. On arriving here he put on a pair of European trousers with side pockets and put the big into one of the pockets, fastening it to his belt with a string. On coming ashore and putting his hand in his pocket he found he had been robbed of the savings of years. In the crush of passengers and "water rats," while leaving the ship some one had cut the string and stolen the bag.

JUDITH PUL of Queensland holds views regarding crime which shock the Conservative mind. Thus, when he delivers the ante-sentencing homily to the burglar, the forger, or the horse-thief, he says: "I am sorry for you because I know you cannot help it; it is a part of your nature for you to do these things. Nevertheless, society must be protected, and, therefore, it is my duty, &c., &c. Offenders' Probation Act to four times as many prisoners as any other judge. Even if hardened offenders when sent to gaol by Judge PUL do not leave the world with a full determination to return better men, they go, to prison without cursing for his apparent malice and cruelty the judge who sentenced them, which is at least something."

THE Directors of the California Athletic Club at a meeting on the 20th ultimo completed arrangements for a fight to a finish between Peter Jackson, the colored heavy weight, and Jim Corbett, late boxing instructor of the Olympic Club. The fight is to take place on the 21st of May, and the purse they are to contest for is \$10,000. The Board intended to match Corbett against Slavin, but the latter wired from London that he was suffering from influenza, and was in no condition to take a fight. Corbett and Jackson are both well satisfied with the Board's terms. The purse is to be divided, \$8,500 to go to the winner, and \$1,500 to the loser. Corbett says that he is more anxious to meet Jackson than Slavin, for the reason that he considers the colored champion by far the most talented boxer of the pair. Corbett intends to make a tour throughout the East before he settles down to train for his fight with Jackson. He left "Frisco" on company and, and is en route through the East in company with John D. Macdonald of Minneapolis. Corbett will attend the Dempsey-Fitzsimmons fight at New Orleans.

THE VOYAGE OF THE SHIP "VIGILANT"

SIX OF THE CREW DROWNED.

The American ship *Vigilant*, Capt. Bailey, which arrived in port this afternoon, was unfortunately enough to lose six of her crew while on the voyage from New York to this port with a cargo of kerosene. As a sea breeze blew from a little to the westward of the Philippine Islands an apprentice fell overboard while in the act of letting go the main sheet. The captain saw the accident and at once threw a life buoy to the youth, which was made fast to the log line. The youth got into the buoy and for a few moments was dragged astern, but as the way on the ship could not be stopped at once the line parted by reason of the strain on it and the boy was soon left far astern. A boat was then lowered, manned by the second officer and four seamen. They pulled successfully, notwithstanding the boisterous weather, to the spot where the apprentice was floating in the buoy and then those on board the *Vigilant* thought that he was saved and nothing more was seen either of the boat, its occupants, or the boy. After tacking about the spot for some time the *Vigilant* was put on her course as it was found useless to prosecute the search any longer.

Subjoined is an extract from the Captain's log book referring to the sad incident, with which we have been conversing with the crew.

On January 20th at 4 p.m. during a fresh breeze a seaman named William Schomann while unlocking the main sheet got on the clew of the sail, and although ordered off by the captain and boatswain he was too late and went overboard, the ship going about 5 knots at time. I at once threw him a life preserver which he got into. Backed yards, hove the ship to and got the port quarter boat lowered. The boat was manned by the 2nd mate, Clackson, and four seamen. Cook aloft all the time looking out for the boy drifting astern. Boat left ship at 1.45 and pulled for the boy in the life-preserver. At 2.30 were ship and stood back on port tack to again keep the boat to windward of ship. At 3 p.m. were again. At 3.30 signaled to second mate to return, as breeze was increasing. At 3 p.m. a squall of rain passed over and after it never saw the boat again. Cruised about until 6 p.m. and then giving up all hopes we "filled" away under short sail. During the night we were again with high sea. At 5 a.m. on 21st more ship and stood back for the position of the night previous. At 6 p.m. passed one of the oars. Judging from this that the boat had capsized and all drowned, and having lost 28 hours, kept on course to Hongkong. The whole crew concurred in the opinion that all that was possible was done to rescue the boy and the occupants of the boat. The following comprised the boat's crew: W. F.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE COURT-MARTIAL ON DEAD MEN.

To the Editor of the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."
Sir,—Permit me to thank you very heartily for your many defence of the character of those unfortunate members of the Royal Navy who went down with the *Serpent*, and whose reputation was assailed by the gentlemen constituting the farcical Court-martial which recently sat for the purpose of drawing up a "findings" in connection with that lamentable affair.

What you say about the callousness of the Judge and Assessors I fully concur in, and would add that in the opinion of myself and a large circle of friends it is believed that the chief aim and object of the Court was the clearing of that unwieldy mass of inert humanity known as the Admiralty from the charge, "that the loss of the *Serpent* was due to faulty construction." That was what the Court determined to do, and set about its accomplishment with a persistence worthy a better cause.

It is extremely probable that the *Serpent's* steering-gear got out of order, and that was the main cause of the disaster. The evidence of the three survivors, in view of their subordinate positions in the Service, is utterly valueless. Evidence obtained under duress amounts to no evidence at all; and that the three survivors were "under influence" there, does not appear to be much doubt. So much, then, for the finding that the defenceless dead were guilty of "an error in judgment."

As a set-off against that cruel judgment I would suggest, Sir, that a fund be started for the erection of a memorial to those who perished with the *Serpent*, towards which I and many others will willingly contribute all that we can afford. This being a high naval station it is an appropriate place to start such a fund and erect a memorial, no matter how humble a one it may be.

Yours respectfully,
A BRITISH OFFICER.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

NEWS BY THE AMERICAN MAIL.

The O. & S. S. Co.'s steamer *Belgit*, Capt. W. H. Walker, with the American mail of the 30th ult., arrived in port this morning. We take the subjoined telegrams from our San Francisco exchanges:—

DUBLIN, December 29th.
The *Freeman's Journal* to-day announces that the conference between Parnell and O'Brien will take place to-morrow at Boulogne-sur-Mer. It adds that Messrs. John Redmond, Kenney and Clancy, and perhaps Campbell, members of Parliament, will be present at this meeting. The *Journal* also remarks that whatever the result of the conference, nobody will be able to say that Parnell has placed barriers in the way of any agreement that might be reached between the two leaders. The Mayor, the Mayor-elect and five previous Mayors of Cork have written to O'Brien stating that it is the opinion of the people of Cork that English statesmen, in conjunction with Gladstone, have attacked Parnell's position. The gentlemen referred to add, that as much as they appreciate Gladstone's services, and deeply feel the obligations due to the Liberals, they deny their right to dictate to Irishmen as to who should or should not be their leader.

Vincent Scully, recently defeated by Sir John Pender, in the contest for North Kilkenny's seat in Parliament, has written a letter to the *Freeman's Journal* in which he says that the attitude of the Irish bishops before and during the election referred to only shows that Parnell "committed a private vice," and allowed judgment by default to be delivered against him, and, therefore, he has been pronounced no longer eligible to a position of public trust. Continuing, Scully says the Irish struggle is essentially political and not a moral one—a struggle for leave for the Irish to manage Irish affairs after their own fashion. "The struggle is one of pounds, shillings and pence, and not of sacraments."

Athlone, Roscommon and Westmeath are excited by a proclamation which is placed in all prominent places. It states that three Irishmen have resolved to support their independence, and that the Kilkenny reverse is "the trumpet call for you to close your ranks and make the last supreme fight for the cause." It adds that "the fatherland is threatened by a calamity surpassing the horrors of the famine, the lowering of the flag of independence on the vague promise of a British statesman, Irish history teems with disaster resulting from a reliance placed upon English promises." The proclamation, continuing, asks "the people to sustain the tried policy of the independent party in Parliament," adding that "with the people of Ireland and America united behind it it should sustain the leader who made that policy and led you to victory until now. The issue between the independent party was as to whether the people should choose their own leader and party or as to whether they should become merely a part of the English Liberals and accept a leader dictated by the English leaders. That would not be home rule. We want real home rule—the home rule for which Emmet and other patriots gave their noble lives. We were advancing to victory under a good leader. Support him and the grand cause forever. God save Ireland!"

LONDON, December 29th.
O'Brien, in denying in his dispatch from Paris that he ever wrote a line for the *Irish World*, as stated by the London *Times* and *Penny Press*, had caught the *Times* at its old Piggyback tricks, and that he "would not allow that newspaper to sail away with its quibbling, dishonest reply pinned to false, malicious libel."

It is stated that the Government will withhold the Irish Local Government bill until the dispute between the Irish factions is settled.

ROME, December 29th.
There is considerable comment here over the fact that Bishop Graves of Limerick has been in the city incognito for some days past. His presence here at the same time as Sir George Errington is in the city is regarded as curious, and many believe the Bishop's visit relates to Irish affairs in general and Parnell in particular.

NEW YORK, December 29th.
John Dillon, the only member of the Irish envoys now in the city, said to-day that O'Brien would hold a secret conference at Paris to-morrow with Parnell. The result of the conference, for which all Irishmen of the world are waiting, will probably be known on Wednesday.

NEW YORK, December 29th.
A morning paper says: One of the most deliberate and pre-arranged plans for plundering wholesale diamond merchants on Maiden Lane was unearthed last Saturday, when several deputy sheriffs made a descent on the jewelry store at 389, Eighth avenue, and seized everything of value in the place. The store is owned by Albert Kahn, who has disappeared with almost the entire stock of the establishment, valued at about \$50,000. The scheme was so successful that about a dozen down-town diamond brokers and jewelers were victimized, and the singular in the plot made good his escape. The defaulting tradesman left his wife penniless. Before leaving for parts unknown he persuaded her to give him a few hundred dollars she had saved. In the face of the man's previous unscrupulous reputation, he managed to

work upon the credulity of down-town jewelers, and made such pretensions as to his big bank account and immense trade, that he had comparatively no difficulty, after he once made a favorable impression, in getting all the jewelry and diamonds he wanted on credit. One of the victims who let Kahn have jewelry on credit said he did not think more than \$500 could be realized on the fixtures. Unless the police recover the stolen stock the creditors will sustain a total loss.

BERLIN, December 29th.
The *Volks Zeitung* of Cologne asserts a bill will be submitted to the German Imperial Parliament next year for the restitution to the Catholic church of the entire accumulated capital formed by the priests' salaries which were confiscated during the anti-Catholic agitation.

The Emperor is following the example of Frederick the Great in enlisting the tallest men that can be found for his guards. The latest acquisition is a young Rhineland, whose height is 7 feet 4 inches. He is the tallest man in the guards since 1750.

PARIS, December 29th.
Most of the jurymen who tried Etraud, the stranger of Notary Gouffé, have signed a petition for the commutation of his sentence.

Nicola Maximilianovich, Prince of Romanovsk, Duke of Leuchenberg, is in the city suffering from cancer of the throat. It is believed he will not live a fortnight longer.

At a meeting to-day of the shareholders of Comptoir d'Escompte, it was decided to bring suit against M. Heusch, formerly president of the board of directors, for 1,600,000 francs.

In an interview with an Associated Press reporter to-day William O'Brien said that he had little to say to his friends in America yet. When the proper time comes he and the others will be ready to give all possible information, and he hopes that it will be soon. As to the statement attributed to Hugh O'Donnell that the funds of the Irish party held in Paris are in such a shape that neither the Parnellites nor anti-Parnellites can touch them, O'Brien declined to give a direct answer, saying that no Nationalist who knows O'Donnell attaches the slightest importance to anything he says on the subject.

Regarding the funds subscribed in the United States recently O'Brien said that no man on either side in the present conflict has the smallest fear that there will be any misdirection of the national funds. The fund now in Paris was subscribed for general political purposes, and remains in suspense pending a settlement of the differences in the party. As to the American funds just subscribed, they are to be forwarded to the joint treasurers, Webb and Kenney, in Dublin, and will be expended solely for the purpose for which they were subscribed—the support of evicted tenants.

LONDON, December 29th.
At Hawarden Castle to-day the eighty-first birthday of William Gladstone was celebrated with quiet rejoicing. Telegrams of congratulations and numerous presents are arriving from all parts of Great Britain, and there were also received several congratulations by cable from the United States. Nearly the whole of Mr. Gladstone's family were present at the castle, and the village was crowded with visitors. A memorial fountain, erected by the residents of Hawarden in order to commemorate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone, was unveiled. Gladstone's health is excellent.

It would be difficult to find a parallel to such a sudden descent from immense wealth to comparative poverty as that of the partners in the great firm of Baring Brothers & Co. Lord Revelstoke was building a splendid mansion in Mayfair which was to cost £50,000, but has surrendered this as well as the rest of his property to the creditors to be realised upon as among the assets of the firm. The other brothers have dealt with their property in the same way.

M. Hodgson, who was a silent partner only, and drew \$50,000 a year from his share of the business, had a magnificent place in Kent where the family had dwelt for three generations. This he has given over as it stands, house, furniture, works of art and everything, to the liquidators, and finds himself, beginning life again at an advanced age at a salary of \$500 per year in the office of the revived limited company of Barings & Co.

Another partner, Mr. Stewart, father-in-law to Herbert Ward, of Stanley and Africa fame, had purchased one of the most palatial houses in Carlton House Terrace and was spending £150,000 in decorating and finishing it. The house was to have been occupied by him, this spring and a great house-warming was planned. He considers himself fortunate in finding a purchaser for it in the person of Mrs. Mackay.

Yet another member of the firm, Henry Bingham Mowbray, had a splendid house and estate in Kent, for which he has found a tenant for three years in Sir Henry James.

VIENNA, December 29th.
The *Tagblatt* says the German Government has taken the initiative toward calling a conference to consider the establishment of an international system of protection against nihilist outrages.

GLASGOW, December 29th.
There are many signs of the great railroad strike not holding its own and that the strikers will have to submit. The passenger and freight traffic on the main lines is slowly improving.

The North British Railroad Company is reopening its local lines. A body of about 150 English railroad hands has arrived here and will be put to work on the Galedonian road. The miners of Kilmarnock are joining the strikers, and the latter expect still further additions to their ranks. The announcement is made to-night that the secretary of the English Railwaysmen's Union threatens to bring out 80,000 English railroads to work on the Scotch railroads not soon come to terms with their employers. This threat has caused a sensation, as it may lead to a wholesale strike along the lines of all English railroads. The railroad officials this evening state that they feel confident that they can fill all vacancies, and express the opinion that the strike will soon collapse.

OTTAWA (Ont.), December 29th.
The section of Secretary Rush of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, in closing certain Vermont ports for the entry of Canadian cattle into the United States, owing to the alleged existence of pleuro-pneumonia in the Dominion, is much criticised here. Government officials assert there is not a single case of disease in existence in the Dominion.

BERLIN, December 29th.
Chancellor Von Caprivi is in communication with foreign Governments, including France, on the socialist question, with an effort to arrive at a common understanding as to the treatment of the more dangerous class of socialist agitators who have driven from one country, and taking it from across the borders of another. The main difficulty in the way of an arrangement is said to be England's insisting on furnishing a refuge to all fugitives whose offences are political.

MINNEAPOLIS, December 29th.
A special from Duluth to the *Tribune* says: It was definitely settled to-day that Captain McDougall, manager of the Steel Barge Company, will start for the Pacific coast in ten days to establish a shipyard on Puget Sound for building steel "whale-back" vessels for the Pacific coast trade. The company has submitted plans of its peculiar style of vessel to the United States navy, and if the Government lets any contracts to the company a shipyard will be established on the Atlantic coast. The Puget Sound yard will cost \$1,000,000.

DUBLIN, December 29th.
The failure of F. E. Dubedot & Son, stock brokers of this city, is announced. The head of the firm was chairman of the Dublin Stock Exchange and the firm being declared defaulters Mr. Copland has succeeded to the presidency of the exchange.

The *Dublin Mail* estimates the loss at £250,000. Another estimate places the liabilities at £600,000. Dubedot could not be found at his home. The announcement of the failure for a time completely demoralized everything on the Stock Exchange.

BLANFORD, December 29th.
A mysterious and tragic death is the present sensation of the day in this neighbourhood. From accounts of the police, who maintain silence upon many important links in the story, the following appears to be the facts of the case.

A man named McDowell, who, it is supposed, was born in this city, went to South Africa some years ago, finally settling down in the diamond-mining region and accumulated a fortune there. About seven weeks ago McDowell reappeared upon his belongings in South Africa and prepared to return to Ireland. Previous to so doing, however, he married a beautiful girl belonging to Kimberley, the celebrated diamond mining town. After his marriage McDowell sailed with his bride for this country. After their arrival here they passed some time in the city, and then seemed to have settled down at Bangor with the intention of passing their honeymoon at that place. Last night the inhabitants of Bangor were thrown into a state of great excitement when it became known that the body of Mrs. McDowell was found by the roadside just outside of the town with an empty bottle, supposed to have contained poison, lying beside her. So far there are all the facts obtainable from the police, who are investigating the mystery.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 29th.
Eighteen Celestians who reside in this city and State were to-day instructed in the first degree of Chinese Freemasonry by Mang Yu, Chief Master and Bishop of San Francisco. There are other noted Chinese from San Francisco, and the work will be continued until Sunday.

MONTREAL, December 29th.
Cattle thieves are bitter against Mr. Plimsoil, the English philanthropist, who is here to wage war against the export of live cattle. They charge him with being an ally of the United States "dead-men" men, and with having drawn all his information from sources rival to the Canadian trade.

The question of whether the trade can be more profitably conducted by shipping dead meat instead of live animals, is, they say, purely a business one to be settled by those engaged in it. They declare further that the growing commerce in what are known as "stockers" lean cattle to be grazed in English pastures, would be completely destroyed by the substitution.

Mr. Plimsoil suggests that the shipper's troubles are increased by the evidence of suspicion which the United States authorities show in re-quiring cattle entering Vermont.

SEATTLE, December 29th.
Labelle, the "King of opium smugglers," who escaped from the United States Secret Service officers while being conveyed from his home at Port Huron, Mich., to Detroit, about two years ago, by jumping through a car window, was to-day caught at Olympia, where he was driving a laundry wagon under the alias of Boulanger. He is said to be at the head of the largest smuggling ring in the United States, and is worth a great deal of money. The capture was made by Special Inspector Coblenz, who has been following him for several years.

TACOMA, D. C., December 29th.
Labelle was brought here to-night and lodged in jail. He is said to have smuggled hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of opium over the line and laughed at the customs officials. His operations have extended from Quebec to Victoria, and every customs officer on the border has his description.

ST. PETERSBURG, D. C., December 29th.
The official messenger of December 24th announced that the *Czar*, through Hon. Charles Emery Smith, United States Minister, had conveyed to the American colony here his thanks for a resolution expressing gratitude for the full liberty enjoyed by the members of the United States Congressional Church since its establishment here about fifty years ago. These resolutions were passed December 18th upon the occasion of the celebration of the jubilee of the sacred edifice. To-day the text of the letter of thanks referred to is published. It is written by De Gier, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and contains the following words: "The Emperor, being acquainted with the eloquent, sympathetic testimony gathered at the celebration of the jubilee of the American Church, has deemed it his duty to convey his thanks to you and to the members of the church. His Majesty has also been informed as to the sentiments expressed in the resolution, a copy of which you have given me. Accept the assurance of my most distinguished consideration."

A new law against the Jews will be promulgated on Thursday. It prevents the selling, leasing or mortgaging to a Jew of any estate in the empire. All privileges heretofore granted to certain Jewish merchants in the ownership of real estate are canceled. Jewish citizens have been permitted to reside outside of the Hebrew section will have to return. The miscreant consequent upon this new decree can hardly be estimated. Christians aiding Jews to evade these regulations are to be punished.

DARING ROBBERY AT A BANK.

CHICAGO, December 29th.

One of the most daring robberies known in Chicago was perpetrated to-day by three stocky toughs, undoubtedly the same who recently robbed the cashier of Allerton's packing-house. A few minutes past noon three men entered the Merchants' Exchange Bank, on Commercial Avenue, South Chicago. Cashier Wilder and Book-keeper Willis had gone to lunch, and the only person left in the bank was Frank Lynn, assistant cashier. The men went to the windows in the bank building, pointed revolvers at Lynn, and ordered him to open the door at the rear and let the third man in. Lynn did this, when the robber knocked him down and kicked him in the stomach until the young man was completely helpless. Then he entered the vault, took from the safe three \$500 packages of bills, some change and a box containing deeds and mortgages. Then he picked up Lynn threw him into the vault and locked the door on him.

The burglar then put his foot into a sack, and taking a bag of money, he threw it at the Book-keeper Willis, who was sitting at the entrance to the bank, and on getting inside was surprised to find the vault locked and no one present. He hurriedly opened the vault, when young Lynn fell out bloody and groaning and said that the bank had been robbed. Willis rushed outside and met Police Lieutenant Jenkins and Sergeant Power. The patrol wagon was called out in a minute and started out in hot pursuit of the robbers, whom they could see a mile ahead. The last was piled mercilessly, and the police were gaining rapidly when the horses began to tire. The lieutenant ordered the officers to use shotguns as soon as they could get within range, while he jumped out to order another wagon.

At the corner of South Chicago and Cottage Grove avenues the robbers deserted the buggy, getting into the covered meat wagon of Charles Mullin, evidently with the idea that they would thus elude the vigilance of the police. But the pursuers were too close, and a volley from a shot-gun soon caused them to desert the wagon. When it was caught up with Mullin was placed under arrest, although protesting he knew nothing about the matter, while the officers continued in chase of the others.

One of them, John Corbett, soon surrendered, and after a long hunt the others were found in a barn. They opened fire on being discovered, and Patrick O'Brien, a watchman with the police, was shot in the thigh. The sight of shotguns was too much for them, however, and they soon gave up, surrendering all their spoils. They gave their names as Frank Bennett and Henry Featherstone. The latter is known to the police by several other names.—*S. F. Chronicle.*

BURNING OF THE JAPANESE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

Most of us have heard of, and some possibly have read a brochure by the late Archbishop Whately of Dublin, written to prove that Napoleon Bonaparte never existed, and we can imagine that those who read the pamphlet were nearly in the same state of mind as were the Yokohama residents, this morning, on the question as to whether the recently erected Houses for the Diet had, or had not, been consumed by fire last night (21st inst.). By 7 a.m. the information was current amongst the Japanese that these buildings had been utterly destroyed, and the news soon spread abroad. This information was confirmed by the native papers, but later in the morning, the *Yokohama Mail* came out with an announcement that the Parliament houses were still standing, and that the fire had taken place outside the moat, amongst the houses situated between Shimadai station and the old Engineering College. As the editor of that journal lives within a few hundred yards of the scene, some reliance was placed in this, more especially as several foreign residents of Tokyo, who had come down this morning, had no knowledge of the affair, and one gentleman was even understood to say that the Houses were still standing when he passed this morning. Later, the *Yiji* issued an extra, confirming the account of the confusion, and stating that the Diet was to meet temporarily in the Koba-dai-kyo. Farther information is all in confirmation of the destruction of the buildings.

The fire was discovered about half-an-hour after midnight, and began in that portion of the buildings devoted to the use of the House of Representatives, at least when our informant reached the scene, shortly before one o'clock, that wing was already doomed. The fire spread across the connecting passages, and in a short time the entire block was a mass of flames. Built as the Houses were of wood, the efforts of the firemen and police were utterly fruitless to control or make head against the conflagration, and by half past two the House of Peers had shared the same fate as the lower House, and although the fire was far from being extinct, all that remained of the first home of the Japanese Parliament, built at so much expense, and opened with so much ceremony only a few months ago, was a mass of burning embers; with the exception that two or three of the out-buildings, one of which was devoted to the use of press reporters, still remained.

As it was impossible to obtain full and reliable particulars of the occurrence, but we understand that a number of persons were injured. The buildings, which were only completed a few months ago, were constructed as a temporary house for the Diet; but the material used was certain to ensure their destruction should they ever catch fire, and this has unfortunately proved to be the case. As to the origin of the fire, various conflicting statements are floating about. The official account is that it was caused by the electric light, whilst the *Tokyo Shimpō* says that it was the result of an accident. As the risk of being considered a pessimist by the *Yokohama Mail*, not that this would weigh heavily upon our feelings—we must say that the latter is the more probable reason. The Japanese have shown themselves great adepts at electricity, and even when fitting the light to old buildings never intended for its reception, they have always hitherto secured perfect safety, and it would be strange if their first failure was in a newly constructed building, where every preparation had been made for its installation. Besides which, what could the electric light have been used for after midnight?

Most of us will be inclined to look upon it as the reply of the *senki* to the release of the Peace Preservation Regulations, and although this may not be openly admitted by the officials, we should not be surprised if it were correct. The loss will be a severe one to the Government, as the buildings, which were very conveniently fitted up, cost them, if we remember correctly, about \$75,000.

Since the above was written, an extra from the *Matshiki Shimbun* has been published, which states that the official residence of the Chief Secretary of both Houses were saved, but most of the important documents of both houses were destroyed. The House of Peers meets to-day in the Rokumei-kan, and the House of Representatives at the Koba-dai-kyo. For *Herald.*

RAUB.

In connection with difficulties and doubts concerning the establishment of a share register at Singapore to facilitate transactions in the shares of the Raub Australian syndicate it is now satisfactory to be able to state that an end is being put to what has hitherto been a practical deadlock in local share dealing. Some relief of the Singapore shareholders, and to bring to a close a state of things that has been productive of much inconvenience, to say the least of it, a gentleman has been sent from Brisbane to Singapore on behalf of the Raub Syndicate Directors, armed with full powers to establish the required Singapore register. The Brisbane director in question is the Hon. M. Hume Black; one of the best known public men in Queensland. He is a member of the Legislative Assembly of that Colony, and has held the highly responsible position of Minister of Lands under the recent premiership of Boyd D. Morehead. Mr. Black comes to Singapore provided with powers of attorney of the amplest description authorizing him, if need be, to supersede and cancel any existing arrangements which to his mind are not to the advantage of the Company's interests. Since his arrival in Singapore a conference has been held between himself, the local directors, and one of their legal advisers, and partly owing to certain alterations already made in the articles of association at the suggestion of the Singapore lawyers consulted, and partly in consequence of the opinions of Sir Samuel Griffith, the present Premier of Queensland, himself a legal authority of the highest standing in that Colony, it has been decided to open a share register in Singapore forthwith for the due registration of transfers. To this course it is understood that the legal objections formerly held to be so formidable no longer apply, and henceforth there will be no hindrance or inconvenience felt in transactions in the company's shares, due to any doubts as to the validity of these. The present action of Mr. Hume Black has been undertaken entirely for the sake of the Singapore shareholders, as the Brisbane people are in no way affected by the want of

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

PREVIOUS TO REMOVAL, GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

NOW PROCEEDING.

Hongkong, 26th January, 1891.

transfer facilities here, except of course in so far as this artificial hindrance has served to hamper share operations here, and in that way depress the value of the shares by interfering with their negotiability. The present hopelessly flat state of the market, not far removed from a panic, does not seem to be any more justified by the facts than was the absurd and utterly unjustifiable inflation of values in the early days of the Raub excitement. It is to be hoped that with the authoritative report that Mr. Hume Black will be enabled to make to his fellow-directors as a result of his visit to Raub—he goes up on the 20th inst.—he will aid to clear the atmosphere of much of the insecurity that from various unexplained causes at present overclouds it. Mr. Black certainly agrees in our view that with £600,000 worth of gold as a result of mere prospecting operations, for up till the cutting of the four-foot reef on the south side of the hill they could be called little more—and with the more settled prospects now attained by the latter incident there can scarcely be any sound reason for the certainly depressed state in which the Raub share market stands, both here and in Brisbane.

—Free Press.

THE CRUISE OF THE "IN MEMORIAM" OR THE SHIP THAT CAME BACK.

(From the Bulletin.)

The wan light of a stormy dawn
Lit up a tossing ship:
It was the *In Memoriam*
Upon a mourning trip.

Will waves were on the windward bow,
And breakers on the lee;
And through her sides the women heard
The seething of the sea.

"O Captain!" cried a fair widow,
Her white hands clasped she,
"Thinkst thou, if drown'd in this dread storm,
That saved we shall be?"

"You speak in riddles, Lady dear,
How saved can we be
If we are drown'd?" "Ales, I mean
In Paradise!" said she.

"I've sail'd North, I've sail'd South"
(He was a godless wight),
"But, boy or man, since my days began
That shore I never did sight!"

The Captain told the First Mate bold
What the fair lady said:
The First Mate sneered in his black beard—
Quoth he, "I am damn'd!"

"Full forty souls are here aboard,
A-sailing on the wave;
Without the crew, and, 'twixt us two,
I think they're none to save—"

"Full forty souls, and each one is
A widower, or wido'
They weep the scuppers full; the ship
Is waterlogged with woe!"

Again he sneered in his black beard,
"The cruise is not so brief,
But ere we land on earthly strand
All will have found relief!"

"Nay, nay," the Captain said, "First Mate,
You have forgotten one
With eyes of blue; the tears are true
From those dear eyes that run!"

"She mourns her sweetest drown'd last year,
A seaman he, forsooth!
I would not drown for Christ his crown
If he were mine, Fair Ruth!"

"Brave words! but words," the First Mate cried,
"Are wind! behold in me
The warmest lover and the last
Mine shall the maiden be."

Fair Ruth stood by the taffrail high,
A cross dropped in the sea,
"If you lie here, my sweetest dear,
By this remember me!"

Fair Ruth stood by the taffrail high,
A ring dropped in the sea,
"Marry him not, ye false mermals,
For married he's now to me!"

The heavens flash'd flame; a black cloud came,
"Tis wings the sky did span,
And hover'd above the fated ship
Like death o'er a dying man."

Banded the spars, and shrieked the shrouds,
The sails flew from the mast,
And, like a soul by fends pursued,
The ship fled through the blast.

"More sail! more sail!" the First Mate cried
(The Captain stood aghast),
"More sail! more sail!" and he laugh'd in scorn,
All by the mizzen mast.

"O brethren, dear, there's nought to fear,
The steward told me so!"
Twas the parson meek who thus did speak,
Just come up from below:

"And *was* there," he said, with upraised head,
And hands clasped piously,
"I have a sainted spouse in Heaven—
I know she waits for me."

Then grimly laugh'd the false First Mate,
"Good parson, let her be!
I've a wife in every port, but *that*—
And that we shall not see!"

"Oh pardon seek!" cried the parson meek,
"And pray, if pray you can,
For much I fear, by your scornful sneer,
That you are a sinful man!"

Then louder laugh'd the false First Mate,
Louder and louder still,
And the wicked crew laugh'd loudly too,
As pick'd scamen will.

"O Captain!" whisper'd a gentle dame,
"When shall we see the land?"
A biscuit-throw from Hell!

The Captain answer'd never a word,
But clasp'd her by the hand.

"Come Heaven, come Hell," cried the fair widow,
"For me—I have no fear.
I pray ye let me land where I
May meet my husband dear!"

The Captain turn'd him round and said—
"If this wind holds to blow
Ye'll meet in either place ere night,
But which—the saints may know."

"My love's in Heaven," quoth the fair widow,
"For, when he pass'd from view,
In golden script on a marble crypt
They carved it fair and true."

Day after day, night after night,
On the ship did reel:
The Captain drank with the second mate,
The First Mate held the wheel.

Down came the black cloud on the ship,
And wrapt her like a pill,
And horror of awful darkness fell
Upon them one and all.

The night had swallow'd them utterly,
None could his fellow see,
But ghostly voices up and down
Went whispering fearfully.

No faint ray shone from moon or sun,
The light of Heaven was gone,
But ever the First Mate held the wheel,
And e'er the ship rush'd on.

Fair Ruth knelt down in that grim gloom,
She pray'd beneath her breath,
"God carry me o'er this dread sea,
That seems the Sea of Death!"

She ceased, and, lo, a lurid glow
O'er that dark water spread,
And in the blackness burn'd, afar,
A line of bloody red.

"What lights are you?" the Captain said;
The First Mate answer'd then:
"No lights that ever shone upon
The world of living men."

"Down on your knees!" the parson cried,
"Thank God, for all is well!"
The First Mate sneered: "Those lights, they are
The Harbour lights of Hell!"

On fell the ship—to every eye
As when a pallor came,
For all might see that suddenly
The sea had turned to flame.

The lights were near; the Sea of Fear,
"Amid the silence dire,
On that dread shore broke evermore
In soundless foam of fire."

"O, what are you grey ghosts and wans?"
The parson cried, "who seem
With coloured strings of beads to play,
As in a deadly dream?"

"Damn'd souls," the First Mate said, "they are
And count, through endless years,
The moments of Eternity
On beads of burning tears."

"And who," exclaimed the fair widow,
"Is that grim ghost I see
Who stands upon a rock, and grins
And wags his head at me?"

"Your husband dear," the First Mate sneered,
"Hark! you have pray'd—
He says Hell is not Hell to him
Unless you, too, are there."

"Then, will you land, my fair widow?"
(Full scornful were his tones)
"For you he chafes, for you he makes,
Hell weary with his moans!"

Today's
Advertisements.DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW.
THE Company's Steamship
"FUKIEN."
Captain Davis, will be despatched for the
above Port on SATURDAY, the 31st instant,
at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP
COMPANY, LIMITED.FOR MANILA (DIRECT).
THE Company's Steamship

"DIAMANTE."
Captain G. Taylor, will be despatched for the
above Port on SATURDAY, the 31st instant, at
4 P.M.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP
COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

STEAMSHIP "BATAVIA,"
FROM VANCOUVER, YOKOHAMA,
KOBE AND NAGASAKI.

THE above steamer having arrived, Con-
signees of Cargo are hereby requested to
send in their Bills of Lading for Counter-
signature, and take immediate delivery of their
Goods from alongside.
Cargo remaining on board the Vessel
will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk
and expense.

ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

HONGKONG, 28th January, 1891.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES OF CARGO per Steamship
"BELGIC."

THE above steamer having arrived, Consig-
nees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in
their Bills of Lading for Counter-signature, and
take immediate delivery of their Goods from along-
side.
Cargo remaining on board the Vessel
will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk
and expense.

CHAS. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

AT AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING OF THE HONGKONG
JOCKEY CLUB, held on TUESDAY, the 27th
January, 1891, at the City Hall, the following
Special Resolution was submitted to the Mem-
bers of the Hongkong Jockey Club and duly
passed:—
"If the Stewards or any ten Members (with
the concurrence of the Stewards), who shall
certify the same in writing, shall be of opinion
that the conduct of any member, either within
or outside of the Club premises, and either in
matters connected with racing or otherwise, has
been injurious to the character, interests, welfare,
good order, or credit of the Club, the Stewards
shall request such member to resign, and if he
member so requested shall not resign within one
month, after such request, the Stewards shall
convene, or call, Extraordinary General Meet-
ings of the Club for the purpose of expelling the
said member. Such Extraordinary General
Meetings shall be convened, called and held, and
the resolutions thereat shall be passed, confirmed,
and circulated, in the manner prescribed by
rules 31 and 32 of the Club."

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEET-
ING OF THE HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB to
Confirm the above Special Resolution will be
held on TUESDAY, the 30th day of February,
1891, at 4.30 p.m., at the City Hall.
By Order of the Stewards of the Hongkong
Jockey Club.

E. H. GORE-BOOTH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION,
No. 35.

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS
will be observed at this Office and the
Kowloon Customs Stations from the 29th day
of the 12th month of the 6th day of the 1st moon
at 10 a.m. (7th to 14th February) and during
that period all Shipment, Discharge and
Examination of Cargo will be suspended.
McLEAVY BROWN,
Collector of Customs
for Kowloon & District.

Custom House,
Kowloon, 28th January, 1891.WANTED, to buy at reasonable price a
GOOD FOX TERRIER PUP, not over
eight months old, particularly by letter to
F. T.,
Post Office,
Canton.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

HONGKONG CHORAL SOCIETY.

"THE GONDOLIERS."

The Society will give their
FIVE PERFORMANCES
OF THIS OPERA
on the following dates, commencing
EACH EVENING, at 9 p.m. precisely.
SATURDAY, 31st January.
MONDAY, 2nd February.
SATURDAY, 7th February.
MONDAY, 9th February.
SATURDAY, 14th February.

Tickets for the First Performance \$3 each, to
the other four \$2 each.
Season Tickets for all Five Performances \$9
each.
Tickets for any of the Five Performances can
be booked at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.,
on Monday, 28th instant, at 11 o'clock a.m.

N.B.—Books of the Words of the Opera may
be had of Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.'s
Price, 50 Cents.

Special Cars will run as follows:—
Saturday, 31st Jan. DOWN.
7th Feb. 8.30 p.m. to 8.45 p.m.
14th Feb. UP.
15 minutes after the per-
formance of the Gondoliers.
ROBERT EVALL,
Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

Today's
Advertisements.THE TRUST AND LOAN COMPANY OF
CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS,
LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company
will be CLOSED from the 1st to the
12th February, both days inclusive.
DE WETLEY LAYTON,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

SACCONES SHERRY, PORT, IRROYS
CHAMPAGNE, CLARET, HOCK,
BRANDIES, WHISKIES, MACHINERY,
GAS ENGINES, SINGERS SEWING
MACHINES, SCALES, PAINTS, OILS and
VARNISH, BICYCLES and TRICYCLES,
SODA WATER MACHINERY, IRON
SANTARIES, COMPOUNDS, BICYCLE
WHEELS for JINRICKSHAWS.
Apply to
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

F. Blackhead & Co.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAIL-MAKERS,
AND
PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVY CONTRACTORS,
AND
GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,
No. 11, Praya Central,
(Opposite Pedder's Wharf).SOLE AGENTS
for
RAHTJEN'S
GENUINE
COMPOSITION
FOR
THE BOTTOMS OF IRON SHIPS.HARTMAN'S GREY PAINT, specially man-
ufactured for coating the inside of STEEL SHIPS.CARBOLINEUM AVENARIUS
PRESERVATIVE AGAINST
ROTTING, DECAY, &c., of WOODSAPOLIO.
ENOCH MORGAN'S SON'S
SAPOLIO
FOR GENERAL CLEANING PURPOSES.

CHR. MOTZ & Co., BORDEAUX CLARETS

MAX HAASEN'S FRANKFURT ON M.
CONSERVED MEATS,
VEGETABLES and FRUIT
CEMENT from the celebrated Factory of Hem-
moor.SWEDISH TAR and OREGON PINE
LUMBER.FLENSBURG BLOCKBEER.
ENGINEERS' and BLACKSMITHS'
MACHINERY and TOOLS.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIP'S STORES and REQUISITES
ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES.ALL KINDS OF
COALS
SUPPLIED AT THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
Hongkong, 28th Jan., 1891.HONGKONG TIMBER
YARD, WANCHAI.OREGON PINE SPARS and LUMBER
Always on Hand. L. MALLORY.
Hongkong, 28th Jan., 1891.G. FALCONER & CO.,
WATCH and CHRONOMETER MANU-
FACTURERS and JEWELLERS,
NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHARTS and BOOKS.
No. 48, Queen's Road Central.

JUST ARRIVED, FOR SALE.

THE New Stem Winder and Enamelled Dis-
c.WATERBURY WATCH.
SERIES J.—For Gentlemen, or large size.
SERIES L.—For Ladies, or small size.
Winds less than a dozen turns.
Jewelled, Dust-proof, Keyless, with
all the latest improvements.
A perfect and unrivalled timekeeper,
reliable, durable and accurate,
and also
SERIES E.—The "Good old favorite." The
best form of the original Waterbury; offered at
the reduced price of \$8.70 each.
Orders from Out-ports to be accompanied
by remittance for cost.THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA,
Sole Agents in Japan, China,
Korea, Hongkong & Macao.
No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

FOR SALE.

THE Schooner "MONTARA,"
Length... 75 feet.
Beam... 18 "
Depth of hold... 7 1/2 "
Registered tonnage... 75 tons.
(Owing to recent alterations the carrying
capacity of the Montara has been increased to
about 120 tons, dead weight.)
The Montara was built in Singapore, and is
most solidly constructed of teak throughout, with
iron-wood frames. She has recently been
thoroughly overhauled under experienced Euro-
pean superintendence, fastened throughout with
7 inch galvanized spikes, and newly re-coppered.
She is furnished with the best canvas sails,
Draft of water 7 feet.
For further particulars apply to
FRASER SMITH,
A. Pedder's Wharf.

Hongkong, 28th Jan., 1891.

THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.

The Company assisted by foreign (English)
Chrono Artists and under foreign manage-
ment undertake Artistic works of any kind, as
reproduction of Paintings and Lithographs,
Art works, colour printing of any kind (almanacs,
show cards, placards, plans, maps, charts, labels
of every kind, &c.), in foreign and Chinese
style. Embossing and printing of Monograms,
fine art letter paper, cards, programmes, menus,
&c., &c.WALTER W. BREWER,
Sole Agent,
for Hongkong and the Southern ports.
Hongkong, 19th November, 1890.

NOTICE.

HONGKONG & WHAMPOA
DOCK COMPANY,
LIMITED.SHIPMASTERS AND ENGINEERS
are respectfully informed that, if upon
their arrival in this HARBOUR, they of the
COMPANY'S FOREMEN should be at hand,
ORDERS FOR REPAIRS, if sent to the HEAD
OFFICE, No. 14, Praya Central, will receive
prompt attention.In the event of complaints being found
necessary, communication with the Undermanned
is requested, when immediate steps will be taken
to rectify the cause of dissatisfaction.D. GILLIES,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAM-
WAYS COMPANY, LTD.

WINTER TIME-TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

8 to 10 A.M. every quarter of an hour.
10 (noon) to 1 P.M. every quarter of an hour.
1 to 2 P.M. every half hour.
2 to 7.30 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

SATURDAYS.

NIGHT TRAMS at 10.30 and 11 P.M.

SUNDAYS.

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to the Superintendent.Single Tickets are sold in the Cars Five-Cent
Coins and Reduced Tickets at the Office.MACLEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1890.

THE SHANGHAI CHROMO AND PHOTO
LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY,
(LIMITED).Chinese Lithographers, Photo Lithographers,
Lithographers Colourprinters, Colour
Manufacturers, etc.

CAPITAL PAID UP... 50,000 TAELS.

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7.30 to 10.30 and 11 P.M.Intimations.
DOCTOR CLERTAN'S SANDAL
PEARLS

SANDAL PEARLS
which are highly approved by the parisan Aca-
demy of Medicine, contain the pure essence of
Sandal, enclosed in a thin transparent gelatine
envelope which is perfectly soluble and digestive.
They possess a proved efficacy in cases of inflamma-
tion, Scalding, catarrhs and contagious discharges.
Dr Clertan's Sandal pearls cure all these incon-
veniences whether recent or chronic, in two or three days, without leaving any ill
effects. They have no odour, nor do they in any way affect the digestive organs, which
so frequently occur with all similar preparations.
Every bottle, is genuine, bears Dr CLERTAN'S signature.
See that the label on each bottle bears the address, 10, rue Jacob, Paris. Sold by all chemist.

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd. DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA, Ltd.

NOTICE.

JAY'S SANITARY COMPOUNDS
COMPANY, LIMITED.JAY'S WOOD PRESERVER OR
ANTISEPTIC PAINT.THE Undermanned have this day been
appointed SOLE AGENTS for the sale
of these PERFECT DISINFECTANTS, and
are prepared to supply quantities to suit
purchasers, at Wholesale Prices. Extra Special
terms for Shipping and large Orders.
St. ROBERT RAYLSON, C.B., C.E., Chief
Sanitary Engineer, Local Government Board,
London, says
"It is the best Disinfectant in use."
W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.,
Bank Buildings.
Hongkong, 28th Jan., 1891.Dr. Knorr's
ANTIPYRINE.

(Dose for Adults: 15 to 25 grains 4 times a day.)

IS the most approved and most efficacious
remedy in cases of HEADACHE, MIGRAINE,
NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, FEVER,
TYPHUS, ERYSIPELAS, HOOPING-
COUGH, and many other complaints. It is
also a very best Antiseptic. Highly recom-
mended by the medical Faculty. To be had from
every reputable Chemist and Druggist. Ask for
Dr. KNORR'S ANTIPYRINE! Each Tin
bears the inventor's signature, "Dr. KNORR"
in red letters.

Supplies constantly on hand at the China
Export, Import, and Bank Co.—Sole Agents
for China. Beware of spurious imitations!
Hongkong, 28th Jan., 1891.

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Secretary.

Hongkong, 28th January, 1891.

Mails.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY.MAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO
JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES,
MEXICO,
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND
EUROPE.THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING
STEAMERS.

THE Steamship

"BELGIC"

will be despatched for San Francisco, via
Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 3rd February,
at 1 P.M.Connection will be made at Yokohama with
Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to
address in full, and same will be received at
the Company's Office until Five P.M. the day
previous to sailing.First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco, and return,..... 393.75
available for 6 months.....To Liverpool..... 325.00
To London..... 325.00
To other European Ports at proportionate
rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers
of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the
Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on
application.Passengers by this line have the option of
proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific
and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern
Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers,